

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE



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Kennewick Department of Revenue office to Close Fridays as Part of Energy Conservation Pilot Program

OLYMPIA, Wash., July 17, 2001— The Department of Revenue will close its Kennewick office every Friday through the end of August as part of Governor Gary Locke's two-month energy conservation pilot program. The closure will begin Friday, July 20.

In January, the Governor directed each state agency to find ways to reduce electrical and natural gas consumption in state-owned and leased buildings by 10 percent, and to reduce energy use during peak-demand periods.

“The Department is committed to doing its part to help reduce energy consumption,” Agency Director Fred Kiga said.

He noted that Tri-Cities taxpayers will continue to have access to live tax assistance through the Department's telephone information center at 1-800-647-7706, and can access the Department's web site, <http://dor.wa.gov>, for tax information.

The Governor's pilot program will determine if agencies can successfully reduce energy consumption by reducing operating hours without substantially affecting the delivery of state services or employee morale. In addition, the program will determine if the state could operate on reduced hours if the energy crunch worsens this winter.

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